

SHALOM FORT WAYNE

Would you like to become an ambassador to welcome people who are new to the Jewish community or not currently involved?

*If you know somebody new to the Fort Wayne community, please let us know. We would like to welcome them.

Please contact the Federation office:
260 456-0400 or office@fwjf.org

JFFW DECEMBER CALENDAR

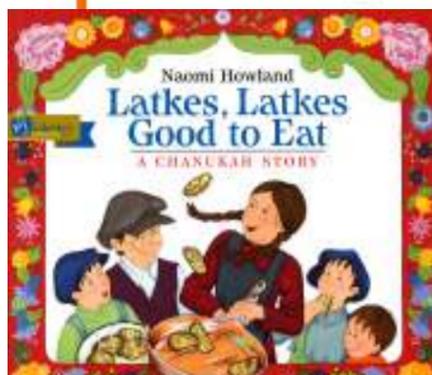
December 3 B'nai Jacob Board Meeting
December 5 Caleb Barasch Bar Mitzvah - T
December 10 Temple Board Meeting
NO Federation Board Meeting this month
December 25 Closed for Christmas
January 5, 12, 19, 26 Confronting the Shoah



About PJ Library®
PJ LIBRARY IS A JEWISH FAMILY ENGAGEMENT program implemented on a local level throughout North America. We mail free, high-quality Jewish children's literature and music to families across the continent on a monthly basis. You can sign up at pjlibrary.org or call our office at 260-456-0400. Ages 6 months thru 8 years.

chailights

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E-mail: jakischreier@fwjf.org
www.fwjf.org
Dr. Ron Friedman, President
Jaki Schreier, Executive Director



ARE YOU MISSING OUT??

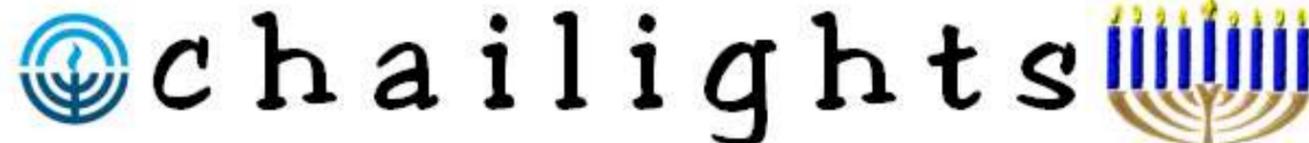
Check out our Web site at www.fwjf.org

- Israel trip, application & details
- Borns Jewish Studies Programs
- Camp Joe Levine Photos
- Indiana Hillel Branches
- GA
- Chailights
- Videos of our Speakers
- Photos of Past Events
- Thoughtful Thursdays

Happy Chanukah from your friends at the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.
Jaki, Bonnie, and Larry



Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne



DECEMBER 2015

www.fwjf.org



Confronting the Shoah

The Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne (JFFW) cordially invites you to attend its **six-session program** *Confronting the Shoah*. The adult education course, which has been offered annually since 2004, will provide participants with comprehensive contextual and historical knowledge regarding the Nazi Holocaust. Presented by Dr. David Lindquist, who has partnered with the JFFW in presenting Holocaust education for over twenty years, the program will be held at the Rifkin Campus (Temple Achduth Vesholom), 5200 Old Mill Road (one mile south of Foster Park) in Fort Wayne. Sessions will be held on **six** Tuesdays (**January 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th and February 2nd and 9th**). Each two-hour session will begin at 7:00 P.M. The session topics include:



1. An Introduction to the Study of the Holocaust
2. Contextualizing the Study of the Holocaust
3. The Setting for the Holocaust
4. Evolution of the Holocaust
5. Bystanders, Collaborators, Rescuers, and Resisters during the Holocaust
6. The Conclusion and Aftermath of the Holocaust

Program Details

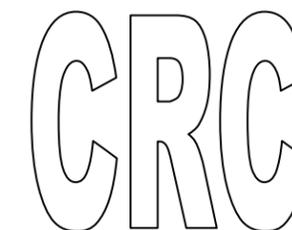
The program is open to adults and high school juniors and seniors in the greater Fort Wayne/northeastern Indiana area. There is no enrollment fee for teachers and Federation members. Other participants are asked to pay a nominal \$ 5.00 fee to cover the cost of materials. Major funding for the program is provided by the Dr. Harry W. Salon Foundation and by gifts to the JFFW's Annual Campaign.

A commitment to attend all six sessions is not necessary, but is suggested. Registration in advance will be appreciated. To register, please contact the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne at 456-0400 or email office@fwjf.org.

SAVE THE DATE



Dr. Ronen Hoffman
The History Center
February 3, 2016
7:00 PM
Light Refreshments



GETTING ACQUAINTED THROUGH THOUGHTFUL THURSDAYS



More than 40 Brightpoint Head Start family members attended the annual get-acquainted pizza party on November 12 hosted by the Jewish community's Thoughtful Thursdays volunteers. The menu included pizza, veggies, and doughnut holes.

Prior to the luncheon, Jan Sarratore held a parent education session, encouraging the adults to be creative with objects found around the house rather than purchasing expensive toys. During the luncheon, Jan entertained the little ones, so their parents could enjoy lunch and adult conversation.

We also gave away four 15-pound turkeys in a drawing. Thanks to Rita O'Neill for donating the turkeys and Kathy Sider for providing step-by-step directions and cooking bags for the turkey since many of the recipients had never cooked one before and were excited to have the cooking instructions.



One mom told me "she was going to bring it to her sister's home for Thanksgiving because it's large enough for the entire family to enjoy with leftovers."

In addition, we gave away over 15 gift cards for Kroger and Subway.

Thank you to Cindi Wismer for her creativity and organizational skills in preparing items. Fran Adler, Micki Kepes, Kay Safirstein, Beth Zweig and I got to enjoy our pizza with the Head Start families and hear feedback from parents about Thoughtful Thursdays. Thanks to Bonnie Crubaugh for donating chocolates for the lunch.

We learned that they really enjoy receiving the laminated recipe cards to go with ingredients to make a meal. Toilet paper is still one of the most popular items. They also shared their wish list for the future. One of the moms pointed out that receiving their Thoughtful Thursdays bags on Thursday really helps with their shopping for the weekend because they can cross items off their list.

Thank you to Beth Zweig and Sally Trotter for taking some wonderful pictures, which can be found on the Temple's Facebook page. Thank you to all the volunteers! Without you, there would be no program.

We're collecting boxes of tissues throughout the winter. Please drop off donations at the Temple.

Jamie Berger, Thoughtful Thursdays chair ▶

JFFW FUNDS

Endowment

☆ **Community Relations Committee:** *To provide for local programming and events through the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne.*

☆ **Goldenberg Camp Joe Fund:** *Every year we get a number of requests for assistance with the registration for our three-week Camp Joe Levine Day Camp.*

☆ **Baum/Goldenberg Scholarship**

☆ **Janet Finkel Campership Fund:** *A few years ago Audrey Gerson established the Janet Finkel Campership Fund in honor of Janet Finkel. This fund makes it possible to help youngsters go to a Jewish Camp or to a Music Camp.*

☆ **Holocaust Education Fund**

☆ **Emergency Cash Assistance fund**

☆ **Thoughtful Thursdays Fund**

☆ **Audrey and Joe Gerson Free Loan Fund**

☆ **Prejudice Reduction Elimination Fund**

☆ **JNF - Plant a tree in Israel**

☆ **Jewish Experience Fund**

Thank you for supporting the
Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne



☆ **Holocaust Education Fund**

A donation was made by **Barbara Schreier** in honor of **Jaki Schreier's** special birthday.

A donation was made by **Fran and Irv Adler** in honor of **Jaki Schreier's** special birthday.

Donations were received from **Irv and Fran Adler** in gratitude to **Carol Jackson** for her support of his Letters project.

☆ **Community Relations Committee**

A donation was made by the **Schreier Family** in honor of **Irene and Bob Walters'** new granddaughter **Iyla Eve Walters**.

A donation was made by **Carol Jackson** to the Community Relations Fund

☆ **Thoughtful Thursdays Fund**

A donation was made by **Jason and Heather Tanner** in honor of **Manny Silverman's** 90th birthday.

JFFW Fund Donation Form

Donation from: Name _____ Fund (pick from list) _____

Donor address _____ In honor of _____

Donor City/St/Zip _____ In memory of _____

Send card to: Name _____ Notes: _____

Send card to address _____

Send card to City/St/Zip _____

**Send your donation and this form to:
Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne
5200 Old Mill Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46807**

What we're reading



Israel/Palestine

Professor Alan Dowty

What explains the peculiar intensity and intractability of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict? Of all the "hot spots" in the world, the apparently endless clash between Jews and Arabs in the Middle East seems unique in its longevity and resistance to resolution. Is this conflict really different from other ethnic and nationalist confrontations, and if so, in what way?

It is for that reason that the American Association of University Professors has rejected any academic boycott of Israel. Likewise, prominent Palestinian academics such as Sari Nusseibeh, president of Al Quds University in East Jerusalem, have been firm critics of efforts to boycott Israeli universities and academics.

For similar reasons, the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), which represents 312 affiliated organizations in 156 countries and territories representing 176 million workers, rejected calls to support the BDS Movement and, instead, called for a two-state solution to allow both peoples to live in peace and security.

WHO HAS REJECTED DIVESTMENT RESOLUTIONS?

Divestment resolutions promoted by the BDS Movement have been widely rejected by a variety of organizations as being counterproductive to the goal of reaching a peaceful solution to the conflict. For example, in 2013 TIAA-CREF, the leading retirement provider for people who work in academic, research, medical and cultural fields, declined to present a divestment proposal to its shareholders. In fact, TIAA-CREF won approval from the U.S. Securities and Exchange

Commission (SEC) stating that consideration of such a resolution was unnecessary in 2013, and follows a similar SEC ruling in 2011. Similarly, the United Methodist Church, the nation's largest mainline Protestant denomination, voted against a divestment resolution at their 2012 convention. The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church has also rejected divestment and boycotts as "unhelpful."

WHAT ABOUT SANCTIONS?

Sanctions typically refer to attempts by national governments, multilateral organizations and other international bodies to limit or ban trade and other relations with certain states. Importantly, the United States and Western countries – as opposed to Iran or Apartheid-era South Africa – completely reject applying sanctions to Israel. Indeed trade, scientific exchanges and cultural relations have flourished between Israel and the rest of the world over the last decade. In fact, in 2010, the influential Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) voted unanimously for Israel to join its ranks, praising its scientific and technological progress as having "produced outstanding outcomes on a world scale."

WHAT IS THE JEWISH COMMUNITY'S VIEW ON APPLYING BDS TACTICS AGAINST ISRAEL?

While the safety and welfare of Israel is of great concern to the entire American Jewish community, it holds diverse views on what will bring peace in the Middle East. Nevertheless, the vast majority of the community, including organizations such as Ameinu and J Street, seeks peace with Israel's neighbors

and has consistently opposed the approach, methods and goals of the BDS movement.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO ADVANCE PEACE FOR THOSE IN THE CONFLICT?

Those seeking to foster peace should support programs and efforts that promote reconciliation and coexistence, rather than tearing down either party as advocated by the BDS Movement. We need to support efforts that help the parties move toward a "two states for two peoples" solution that would create a Jewish and democratic state of Israel, alongside an independent State of Palestine.

There are many positive opportunities to build the Palestinian economy and infrastructure, as well as encourage economic cooperation between Israelis and Palestinians. It is through these types of activities that we can help both Palestinians and Israelis live together, side-by-side.

THE BOTTOM LINE ON THE BDS MOVEMENT

Israel is a pluralistic and democratic society and these tools are neither appropriate nor are they an honest attempt to bring about peace. The BDS Movement is simply using these tactics to tell an anti-Israel story which is counterproductive, disingenuous and plain wrong.

We need to extricate ourselves from the old paradigm of the BDS Movement that advocates a win-lose approach and unfairly demonizes one side of what is a complicated conflict. We should be building bridges between different peoples, not burning them.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said: "Don't use cures that don't cure, blessings that don't bless, solutions that don't solve." BDS tactics won't solve the conflict, encouraging investment, engagement and a negotiated solution can. ●



CONGREGATION B'NAI JACOB

HANUKKAH CELEBRATION - Wednesday, December 9 - Please join us for an evening of music and fun as we celebrate Hanukkah together! Our traditional hot dog dinner, including potato latkes, will be served at 5:30 p.m. Each adult and child is welcome to bring a gently used, wrapped gift for a white elephant exchange. Bring your menorah for a congregational candle lighting! **Reservations are due to the congregation office by December 1, 2015.**

HANUKKAH AND MORE - The synagogue's Gift Shop is all stocked up for Hanukkah including snow globes; sun catchers; chocolate gelt; dreidels; games; toys; paper goods; greeting cards; decorations; serving dishes; chanukiahs and candles. The Shop is also supplied with prayer shawls; kipot; mezuzot; Shabbat candles and candlesticks; challah covers; yahrzeit candles; framed art; cookbooks; Bar and Bat Mitzvah gifts; jewelry; and books. All reasonably priced. Open during office hours **Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m.**

ETHICS CLASS - The ethics class led by Rabbi Kornspan, using A Code of Jewish Ethics Volume 1 - You Shall Be Holy by Rabbi Joseph Telushkin, continues with great attendance and a lot of good discussion. Next class is Sunday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m, with Tallit and Tefillin at 9:30 a.m.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL - Classes meet on Wednesday afternoons at 4:00 p.m and on Shabbat mornings at 9:30 a.m. Havurat No'ar and Confirmation Classes meet on Wednesday afternoons at 4:30 p.m.

Religious School takes a break beginning Wednesday, December 23 and resumes on Wednesday, January 6.

TORAH CLASSES - Torah class meets on Shabbat at 12:45 p.m. We are currently studying the Book of Leviticus.

Mishneh Torah class meets on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. At present we are studying brachot, the blessings we pray. In this class we are learning from Maimonides' classic work on the Written and Oral Torah.

SHABBAT SERVICES - Shabbat morning services are held every Saturday at 9:15 a.m. After our services, congregants and guests have an opportunity to enjoy the Shabbat and the camaraderie at our Kiddush. ►

JEWISH FEDERATION OF FORT WAYNE Campaign Update

Your donation to Federation is an investment in the Jewish community. This year Federation priorities include helping the needy, engaging the unaffiliated, and as always, supporting Israel and our Jewish brothers and sisters around the world. The Jewish community exists for you and because of you.

\$20,238.81

Got a Simcha?

Send us your upcoming bar or bat mitzvah announcement.

Include your child's name, date of your celebration, parents' names and your synagogue affiliation. Also include a clear picture of your child and a few sentences about his or her hobbies, mitzvah project and siblings. A quote from your child would be terrific!

Send announcements and questions to: jakischreier@fwjf.org.



HANUKKAH HAPPENINGS INCLUDE LATKES AND LIGHTS

Celebrate the Festival of Lights amid the warm glow of dozens of *hanukkiyot* that mark the Maccabees' triumph over the Greeks and their rededication of the Temple. Join us at Congregation Achduth Vesholom on the sixth night of Hanukkah on Friday, December 11 at 6:15 p.m. for a congregational dinner sponsored through the generosity of a Temple family. The meal includes Nelson's Port-a-Pit chicken and latkes. **There is no charge for the meal, but reservations must be made to 744-4245 no later than Wednesday, December 2. Each family is asked to provide a baked item for the Oneg Shabbat to serve six people.** Please bring your family's *hanukkiya* and candles to light together before we eat. Please also bring boxes of pasta to donate to our December Food Drive to benefit the food bank at Wellspring Interfaith Social Services.

Our Hanukkah Shabbat service follows at 7 p.m. Our Oneg Shabbat will feature *sufganiyot*, the jelly doughnuts that are typically served in Israel on Hanukkah, as well as baked items contributed by those who attend the dinner. Shabbat Katan for children in first grade and younger and their families will follow the dinner.

HOT TOPICS & MORE ON SHABBAT

Please join us for Shabbat worship and special events during December at the Temple:

Friday, December 4 – We'll gather for a potluck dinner and Torah Study at 5:30 p.m., followed by our Shabbat service and Torah reading at 7 p.m. (Please RSVP for dinner by December 2 to 744-4245 and bring a side dish for eight to share.)

Saturday, December 5 – Our Shabbat morning service begins at 10:30 a.m. when Caleb Barasch, son of Mike and April Barasch, is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah.

Friday, December 11 – Our Hanukkah & Shabbat service begins at 7 p.m. led by Rabbi Cattapan. (Please RSVP for our latke dinner, which begins at 6:15 p.m., by December 2.) Shabbat Katan for children in first grade and younger and their families will meet after the dinner.

Friday, December 18 – Join us for our Hot Topics Shabbat service at 7 p.m. Dr. Andrew Downs, Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of the Mike Downs Center for Indiana Politics at IPFW, will speak on "What we might expect to hear from the 2016 Indiana General Assembly."

Friday, December 25 – Our annual "Chinese Shabbat" starts with an early service at 6 p.m. at the Temple, followed by dinner at a Chinese Restaurant. Find RSVP information at www.templecav.org.

MEET "MAMELE" DURING YIDDISH MOVIE NIGHT ON JANUARY 16



Join us for a Yiddish movie night and munchies on Saturday, January 16 at 7 p.m. at the Temple when we watch "Mamele" ("little mother"), followed by a discussion led by Dr. Lee

Roberts, our Yiddish Class instructor. Don't worry if you don't know any mamaloshen – the musical, comedy, drama has sub-titles!

Filed in Poland in 1938 and directed by Joseph Green, "Mamele" embraces the entire gamut of interwar Jewish life in Lodz-- tenements and unemployed Jews, nightclubs and gangsters, religious Jews celebrating sukkot-- but the film belongs to Molly Picon (known as 'queen of the Yiddish musical,') who romps undaunted through her dutiful daughter role saving siblings, keeping the family intact, singing and acting her way through the stages of a woman's life from childhood to old age," according to the National Center for Jewish Film.

RSVP to the Temple office at 744-4245 by Wednesday, January 13 to say you'll join us for the film. You'll also have an opportunity to register for our next six-session "Journey Into The World Of Yiddish," beginning February 21. ▶



WHAT ARE B.D.S TACTICS?

BDS refers to boycotts, divestments and sanctions (BDS) that place economic and political pressure on states to influence their behavior.

The Jewish community – along with many in the international community – has and does correctly support the use of these methods when appropriate, such as Apartheid-era South Africa in the 1980s and Iran today. Unfortunately, these tactics have been co-opted by the "BDS Movement" that propagates an extreme, inflammatory and biased political agenda designed to undermine the legitimacy of the State of Israel.

WHAT IS THE B.D.S. MOVEMENT (OR CAMPAIGN)?

The BDS Movement is a global network of individuals and organizations who aim to isolate Israel politically, economically and culturally. Their overall objective is to challenge Israel's right to exist as the sovereign homeland of the Jewish people, which is often called delegitimization.

The BDS Movement attempts to have their agenda adopted by institutions including colleges and universities, faith-based communities, labor unions, civil and human rights organizations and minority groups, as well as all others they can successfully influence.

While they claim they are interested in an equitable and peaceful solution to the conflict, their approach impedes a just outcome and offers a distorted, intolerant and one-sided picture of a complex situation.

At the same time, the boundaries of the BDS Movement and its supporters are not always clearly defined. Often the BDS Movement attempts to co-opt well-meaning people who want to help the parties. It is thus essential to recognize the true goals of the BDS Movement. They offer a false choice of acting either in Israeli or Palestinian interests while the goal should be to act in both of their interests.

WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF THE B.D.S. MOVEMENT?

Despite claiming to seek "peace," the BDS Movement works unambiguously to undermine the "two states for two peoples" solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, which is the commonly accepted goal of the United States, the European Union and the United Nations.

For example, the BDS Movement calls for the return of Palestinian refugees to modern day Israel, not a Palestinian state, which would eliminate the State of Israel as we know it and replace it with an Arab majority state in all of Israel, the West Bank and Gaza.

Omar Barghouti, one of the founders of the BDS Movement stated, "Good riddance! The two- state solution for the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is finally dead. But someone has to issue an official death certificate before

the rotting corpse is given a proper burial and we can all move on ..."

Even Norman Finkelstein, a prominent and harsh critic of Israel, denounced the BDS Movement because it aims for "the end of Israel."

Clearly the strategy of the BDS Movement is to delegitimize Israel's very existence in order to secure a one-state solution to the conflict through Israel's dissolution as a Jewish and democratic, multicultural state.

WILL BDS TACTICS HELP TO SOLVE THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT?

The goal of peace depends on both Israelis and Palestinians working together with international support towards the mutual goal of a negotiated two-state solution. In contrast, BDS tactics are one-sided and are focused solely on pressuring Israel, thus creating a distorted picture of the region. Rather than improve the situation, these advocates undermine the internationally-backed peace process that is premised on the development of mutual understanding and respect.

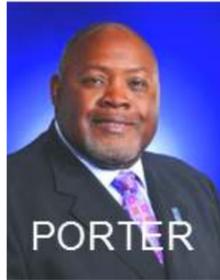
Economic boycotts and divestment actions will not help the Palestinian people. The path to the two-state solution depends on creating an atmosphere of peace and reconciliation combined with economic development and political achievement.

Boycotts are not new. Ever since Israel's establishment, the Arab world has tried to use an economic boycott to isolate and weaken Israel politically and economically. While Egypt and Jordan have trade links with Israel, most Arab countries do not trade directly with Israel. The Roadmap peace plan to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (proposed by the United States, European Union, Russia and the United Nations) specifically calls for the normalization of relations between the Arab states and Israel, including the return of trade links.

WHY ARE ACADEMIC, TRADE AND CULTURAL BOYCOTTS PROBLEMATIC AND WHO HAS REJECTED THEM?

Promoting an academic and cultural boycott of Israel – a central goal of the BDS Movement – contradicts the principles of academic freedom and the open spirit of international cooperation between scientists, artists and others. It is particularly counterproductive to target Israel's academic community, which promotes honest debate, criticism and self-examination within Israeli society. Israel's universities enroll significant numbers of Arab students and are important forums for interaction and cooperation between Jews and Arabs. Indeed, Omar Barghouti, a leader of the BDS Movement, recently received his doctorate from Tel Aviv University. (next page)

Time for Indiana to Single Out Bias Crime



Gregory W. Porter and David Sklar
(From October 26, 2015 Journal Gazette)



It has been a bittersweet year. Even as we extended civil rights and equality to millions of Americans and thousands of Hoosiers, we also witnessed the tragic shootings at a church in Charleston, South Carolina, of the newscaster and cameraman in Moneta, Virginia, and most recently at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon. These deadly attacks come on the heels of similar mass shootings at the Kansas City Jewish Community Center and the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin.

Each of these horrific events had one thing in common – the perpetrators singled out their victims because of their race or religion. The shooter in Charleston targeted a storied African-American church in order to send a message, and the Roseburg shooter allegedly verified that his victims were Christian before murdering them.

Every time we hear of one of these senseless and despicable acts, we are reminded that hate-based violence still takes place with shocking regularity around the country. They also remind us that Indiana is one of only five states in the country that lack bias crime statutes. We believe it is time for this to change and will urge the Indiana General Assembly to pass comprehensive bias crimes legislation in the 2016 legislative session.

In 2013, the last year with data available, at least seventy-five bias crimes were reported by Indiana cities and law enforcement agencies to the FBI. When criminals target victims because of characteristics such as race and religion, they both harm their victims and threaten others who share that race or religion.

For example, a burning cross may harm the yard of only one African-American family, but it conveys its racist threat to all African-Americans who see it. Although Congress enacted the federal Hate Crimes Prevention Act in 2009, the Department of Justice has very limited ability to investigate and prosecute local bias crimes.

This is why it is important that states have their own statutes, in order to react to these crimes directly and justly when they occur.

Our proposed legislation will in no way limit free and constitutional speech or any type of legal religious practice or belief. Bias crimes statutes have been constitutionally upheld by a unanimous Supreme Court ruling in the 1993 case *Wisconsin v. Mitchell* and simply speak to our collective disdain for criminal behavior motivated by hatred and bigotry.

A nation's laws should reflect its social contract with all of its citizens. Adding and enforcing a law addressing crimes based on prejudice would help align our laws with American values. It will send a strong message that hate-based violence is anathema to the principles of freedom and equality that form the cornerstone of American democracy.

We believe that it is time that Indiana join a vast majority of other states in the country and pass a strong bias-crimes statute. We hope our fellow Hoosiers will join us in this important endeavor.

Gregory W. Porter is a member of the Indiana House of Representatives, representing District 96 in Indianapolis. David Sklar is director of government affairs with the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Council. They wrote this for Indiana newspapers.♦

Rabbi Benjamin Blech

Photos taken by Marv Golliieb on October 25, 2015

